Disposal of Rfce Mills by FCI

842. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the jslinister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whethej it is a fact that the management of the. F004 Corporation of India had recently decided to dispose of 25 Modern Rice Mills owned by it and if so, what are the reasons therefor; and,

(b) whether, it is'also a fact that the management nad discontinued for quite some t'me reporting on the performances of the said Rice Mills in its Annual Reports and. if so since when and the reasons therefor?:

>THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) The Food Corporation of India has decided at present to dispose of fourteen out of the-twenty'" five rice mills owned by it on account of economic non-viability.

(bj) The financial results of the operation of Modern Rice Mills are not being hown in the Annual Report Of FCI separately from the year 1983-84, because till these mills are disposed of mey are to "be. treated as part of the Central opera-" tions. The financial results are, however, reported to the Government by FCI.

Interim observations of the National Commission of Urbanisation

843. SHRI CHIMANBHAI. MEHTA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that high-powered ^national commission on urbanisation has been extremely critical of the administration, of. Urban Land (Ceiling, and Regulation) Act; if so, what are the t^nterim observations of the Commission and Government's reaction thereto;

(b) what is the surplus land as declared under the said Act;.

(c) whether cess on surplus land has been suggested by the Commission, if so, what is the expected income from- the cess; and

(d) whether Commission hasmadeany recommendation egarding RentContfoLAct, if so, what are- the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) The National Commission- on Urbanisation, in its Interim Report has drawn the ! attention to certain shortcomings in the Urban Band (Ceiling & Regulation) Act and made certain recommendations as in the statement enclosed. *(See* below). Copies of the report has been circulated to State Government, Union Territory Administrations and Central Ministries/Departments for their comments and views.

(b) 1, 68, 182. 70 Hectares. '

(c) Yes, Sir. The levy of cess, even on a modest rate of Rs. 5. 00 per sq. mtr. on the vacant, land should possibily net approximately Rs. 600 crbreg per annum.

(d) Yes, Sir. The Commission has recommended that the Rent Acts be rationalised by (i) protection of " existing tenancies, (ii) institutionalisation of a ' system of rental increases as per a prescribed forfnula, (iii) Delinking of non-resi-, dential tenancines from the purely residentiai so that commercial activity begins to pay the market. rent, (iv) The offering of incentives for new construction (v) Improving the tax-base of local bodies.

Statement

Recommendations made by the National Commission on - Urbanisation on Urban 'Land (Ceiling & Regulation) Act 1976 ' *in its interim report*

(1) The Act must remain on the - Statute Book, all excess lands must be identified and notified as surplus and made liable to acquisition.

(2) All surplus vacant land must be quickly released for city development, in particular housiag, with special emphasis on housjng for the middle and. lower income groups and the economically weaker sections.